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OPC BULLETIN

New York
December 1, 1945.

The last luncheon of the year will be December 5th so come to hear Hugh Baillie, president of the United Press, and Colonel Ed Kirby, Head of radio for the Army.

Get your reservations in early for the Christmas party on the twelfth of December, the last gathering of the year. Come and say Merry Christmas to your colleagues.....

According to the Wall Street Journal, the American Broadcasting Company, at the phenomenal figure of \$4,500 dollars a week, got the services of Elmer Davis, former Chief of the OWI. It seems that they bid against Columbia. The price covers three 15 minute spots a week.

It is fine to have Robert Aura Smith back in the club. The Admissions Committee have announced the following new members: Don Pryor of Columbia Broadcasting Company, on his way to Europe for some months. Edward R. Wallace, Chief National Broadcasting Company. He was in the Pacific area for NBC for more than a year just recently. Dorothy Kilgallen, New York Journal American, associate. Thomas R. Curran, General Manager, United Press in South America and on his way up here from Argentina. Ben Washer of the Sam Goldwyn office, just out of the Army. Martin Kamin, Editor of "Air Courier," with the European Division of the Air Transport Command. Olga Gruhzit, associate, former news editor of the OWI in Beirut, Lebanon.

What did you people do with the cards we sent you for names of prospective members? Forget? Not enough of you sent them back to us. Although John McTigue of ABC was the best.

Morrill Cody, now Cultural Relations Attache' of the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, is doing some good spade work for the club down there. Thanks, Morrill.

There will be a meeting of the Membership Committee in the club office on December 5th, at 2 P. M. right after the luncheon.

Does anybody know how to get in touch with Tom Riegel? It seems that he has left the Office of War Information.

William Chenery, publisher of Collier's, called on our club to help in the fight for freedom of the press in the world at the last luncheon. So Bill Chaplin appointed the nucleus of a committee to study this question with Sonia Tomara, Bruno Shaw and Tom Morgan. Hans Kaltenborn suggested that this committee, through the proper channels, approve the easing of censorship in Russia as reported recently by Eddy Gilmore. Sonia Tomara noted that one of the difficulties for foreign correspondents, stationed in a specific country and enjoying certain privileges, was the roving correspondent who comes in for a few days and makes a hasty report. Major Ormerod of the British Information Service confirmed that this difficulty made many countries more wary of giving complete freedom to reporters. The Committee on press freedom will meet soon and would like to have opinions from the members of the club regarding this matter.

Paul Manning, new member, has been appointed to the Membership Committee.

Bill Chaplin was kept busy at the luncheon introducing everybody around the table. H. V. Kaltenborn, new vice president; Commander Railsback, cousin of Clyde Brown, who was communications officer on the LEXINGTON; Lt. Tom Morgan, Junior, of the U. S. Navy, son of Tom Sr; Turlington Harvey 3rd, nephew of Paul Harvey; and Henry LeCossit, Editor of Collier's; Pat Lochridge of the Womans Home Companion, etc. etc.

Bruno Shaw has been elected by the Board of Governors to fill the vacancy caused by Randall Gould's departure. And Albert Crockett has also been elected to the Board.

Undoubtedly one of the most successful meetings of the Board of Governors in a long time was held at the home of Eugene Lyons on November 26th. Before a blazing fire, the Board got down to work and by the time the agenda had been well taken care of, almost three hours had passed. The members continued to stay and swap stories of news beats, Gene told of covering the Zeppelin flight in Russia, Fred Ferguson of a swimming champion he inherited along with NEA, Harry Price of the Gertrude Ederle scoop while Bruno Shaw remembered news stories in China and Bill Chaplin and Paul Manning (invited) laughed at the newspool in Potsdam complications and the surrender stories.

It looks as if we are going to have door prizes of Renault champagne, and Coty beauty preparations, not to speak of some surprises.